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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: E. Altheimer et al.

Attorney Docket No.: ALTE117421

Application No.: 09/892,199

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: June 25, 2001

Examiner: S. Alvo

Title: TOTAL CHLORINE FREE BLEACHING OF ARUNDO DONAX PULP

RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 5

Seattle, Washington 98101

September 4, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed March 4, 2002 (Paper No. 5).

Pursuant to the Request for Extension of Time enclosed herewith, the period for response has been extended three (3) months, to expire September 4, 2002.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Claims 1-9 stand rejected. Reconsideration of Claims 1-9 in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1 Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102/103

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable in view of R.P. Singh, *The Bleaching of Pulp*, 3d ed. (1972). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the following reasons.

According to the Examiner, the Singh reference teaches bleaching of Arundo donax pulp using oxygen, a totally chlorine free (TCF) bleaching process. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner points to Table 7.6, "Oxygen Bleaching of Kraft Pulp From Arundo Donax (4)," at page 184 of the reference. As noted by the reference numeral "(4)," this table is taken directly from another reference: A. Robert, A. Viallet, P. Rerolle, and J.P. Andreolety, *Revue A.T.I.P.* 20(5):207-217 (1966); *Pap. Trade J.* 152(32):49 (1968). A copy of page 207 from the

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